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THE  
WHY

== OF THE ==



== OF ==

CANADA



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# The WHY

OF THE

## Non-Partisan League

— BY —

FREDRICK W. LAIDLEY

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"Move upward, working out the beast,  
And let the ape and tiger die."

—Tennyson, "In Memoriam."

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"It is well if the mass of mankind will obey the laws  
when made without scrutinizing too closely into  
the reasons for making them."

—Blackstone, "Commentaries on the Laws of England."

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"The time will come when human intelligence will de-  
fine the relations of the State to the property it  
protects."

—Morgan, "Ancient Society."

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## A CRY FROM OUT THE WILDERNESS.

(With Apologies to Nevens' "The Origin of Species")

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Some people think that farm life is sublime,  
That a farmer has little to do with his time,  
But such notions are all without reason or rhyme,  
Which nobody can deny.

We farmers get up every day with the sun,  
And work sixteen hours at a good steady run,  
When we're through with our work there are chores  
to be done,  
Which nobody can deny.

We're frozen in winter, in summer we're stewed,  
All our uncovered parts by mosquitoes are chewed,  
Our lot is a hard one however it's viewed,  
Which nobody can deny.

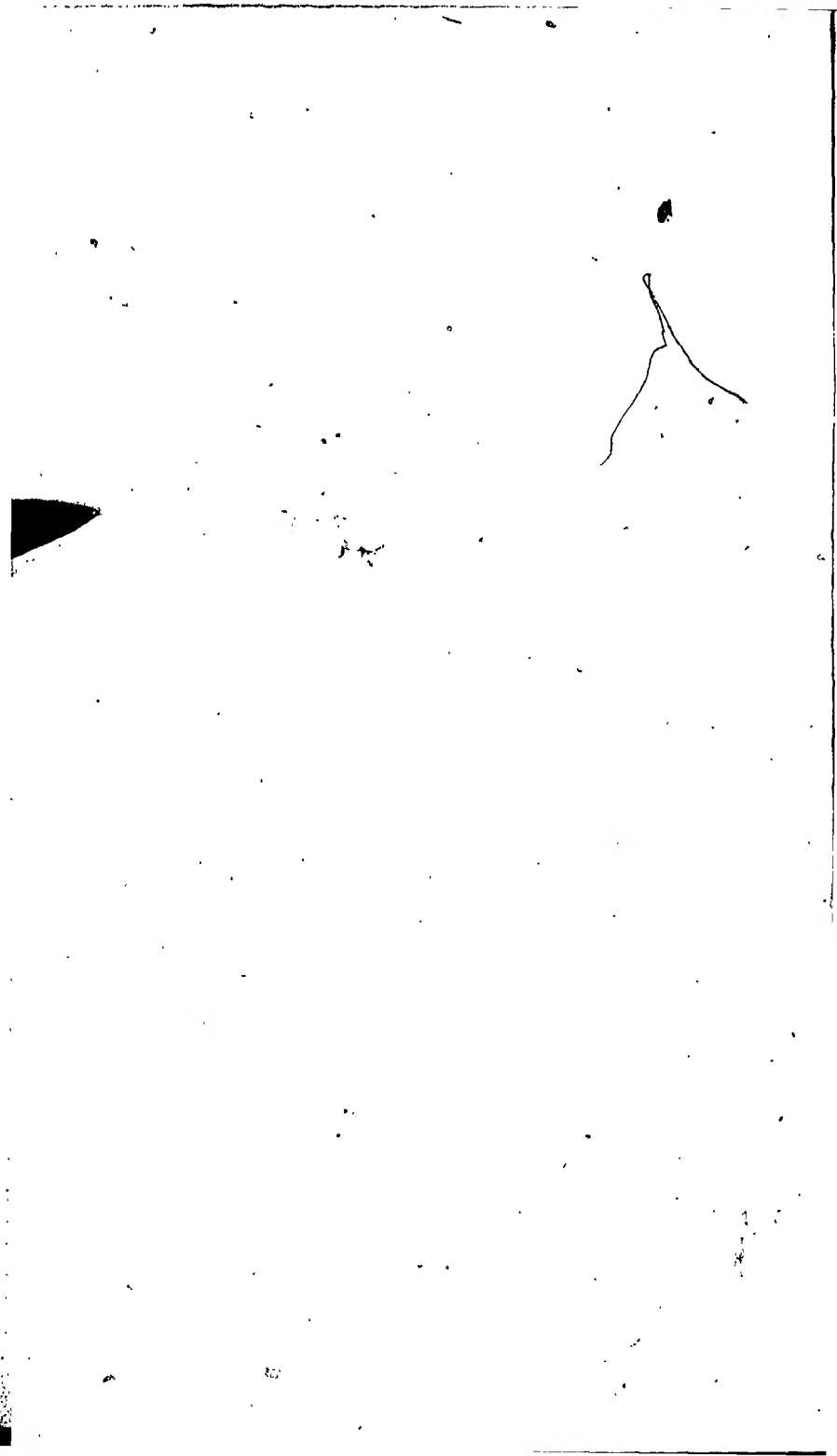
Now with all our hardships are we making a pile?  
And enjoying prosperity? Well, I should smile!  
Wealthy farmers at present are quite out of style,  
Which nobody can deny.

But the bankers ride 'round in their grand motor cars,  
They are clad in swell clothes and they smoke fine  
cigars,  
Bought with wealth sucked from us and the thought  
of it jars,  
Which nobody can deny.

The grain broker, too, and the implement man,  
Both rob us poor guys of as much as they can,  
They're high social lights, while we're under a ban,  
Which nobody can deny.

Now of this unfairness I'm heartily sick,  
And it's up to us all to get busy and kick,  
And we'll get all our own if together we'll stick,  
Which nobody can deny.

—Y. Z.



# THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

## INTRODUCTION.

Now, Mr. Farmer, before you start to talk and argue about the possibility or feasibility of putting into law these two following programmes, always remember this, —That the common people of Canada can enact into law any measure they may wish to have so enacted.

After looking over the Provincial Programme, in a superficial way, your first question will no doubt be,—Where would Saskatchewan get the money?

We will answer that question by asking you another. How big a corporation do you think this little piece of country called Saskatchewan is? Do you know that the farm lands of Saskatchewan are worth, in round figures, one thousand million dollars, just about the same size as the U. S. Steel Corporation, including all the "water" in the securities of that corporation.

Now, then, the shareholders of this Saskatchewan Corporation, that is, the farmers of the province, intend to organize the business along similar lines to U. S. Steel, which manages everything from the iron mine to the finished steel.

The farmers of Saskatchewan are now going to look after the selling end of their business as well as the producing end, and they are starting at the ballot box to produce that result.

At the sound of that word "ballot box," it's funny to see the "bristles" raise on men whom you had always

## THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

thought were "farmers" and "friends of the farmers." What is the basic cause of all this noise and argument? It is simply an echo of "self-interest" or ignorance, or a combination of both. We will analyze this self-interest later.

No matter what anyone may tell you, the only place to start real co-operation is at the ballot box, and the man who says otherwise is either an ignoramus or a knave.

If we want legislation favorable to the common people of Canada, we will have to go after it ourselves through organization. We will get it in no other way. Don't think for a moment that the "class" in control of both old parties in Canada will just hand it out to us. They might hand out legislation that "looked" like it, but as sure as death there would be a "joker" in that legislation.

If you are not yet ready to go after legislation of that kind, this pamphlet is written for the sole purpose of rousing you to action.

It shows you the inner workings of the Farmers' Non-Partisan League — a league formed for the very purpose of having such legislation put on the Statute books of Canada.

Let you and I now discuss this league movement together.



# THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

## FEDERAL POLITICAL PROGRAMME

— of the —

### FARMERS' NON-PARTISAN POLITICAL LEAGUE OF CANADA

1. Nationalization of Banking and Credit Systems.
2. Nationalization of Railroads, Telegraphs, Telephones and Steamship Lines (registered in Canada) and all other means of Public Transportation and Communication.
3. Nationalization of all Industries which are organized on a national scale, and in which competition has virtually ceased to exist.
4. The Extension of the Public Domain to include all Coal Mines, Water Powers and Forests.
5. A Federal Direct Legislation Act including the Recall.
6. Equal and Unrestricted Suffrage for both Men and Women.
7. A Graduated Inheritance Tax Law.
8. A Graduated Income Tax Law.
9. The Abolition of Official Charity; and in its place the enactment of a National Compulsory Insurance Law covering Accident, Illness, Old Age and Death.
10. The Free Administration of Justice.
11. The Abolition of the Canadian Senate.
12. No Court to be Legally Competent to Declare as Unconstitutional, any Act of the Parliament of Canada.

# THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

## **POLITICAL PROGRAMME**

— of —

## **THE FARMERS' NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE OF CANADA**

(Department of Saskatchewan)

1. Provincial Terminal Elevators, Flour Mills, Stock Yards, Packing Houses and Cold Storage Plants.
2. Direct Legislation, including the Recall.
3. Provincial Purchasing of Machinery.
4. Provincial Inspection of Dockage and Grading.
5. Rural Credit, Banks Operated at Cost.

The above items have been selected, not because they are the only demands, but because they immediately "lead up" to the main issue—"the political supremacy of the common people."

## THE CATECHISM

1. Well, what is this Farmers' League, anyway?

A. The Farmers' Non-Partisan League is an association that bears the same relation to the farming industry that the Bankers' Association bears to the banking business, in that they are both political organizations.

2. But are not men other than farmers eligible for membership?

A. No man who does not receive at least 65% of his total revenue from actual farm operations is eligible for full Active membership, in Saskatchewan.

3. Why not allow men other than farmers to become members?

A. Did you ever hear of a farmer being elected to the executives of the Canadian Bankers' or Manufacturers' Associations? No, for the very simple reason that the bankers and manufacturers know that their only salvation is in keeping their organizations free from contamination by so-called "outsiders."

4. But are the farmers capable of managing their own affairs politically?

A. The per capita intelligence of the Western Canada farmer is the highest in the world, which will be proven when the Farmers' Government is installed. The present Statutes of Canada were evidently made by lawyers for lawyers.

5. How does the Farmers' League propose to capture political power and establish the Farmers' Government?

A. By organization—the method adopted by the eastern capitalists in getting control of the two political parties, and the plan whereby the farmers of North Dakota obtained control of the legislature of that state, in other words, the Farmers' League is formed for the

## THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

sole purpose of organizing the farmers of Canada, politically.

The Farmers' League will elect farmers to office, who, by their past records have proven themselves to have been "fighters for their class."

### 6. Does not everyone work, just as well as the farmer?

A. Why, yes; the city laborer is as much of a producer as is the farmer, for the reason that they both create those things necessary to sustain human life on this earth. But there is another "class" who sometimes call themselves farmers, but the only thing they have ever been known to "farm" is the farmer and the wage-worker of the cities. Through this kind of "farming" the wage-worker has become a "wage-slave," and the farmer has become a "mortgage-slave."

These two "classes"—viz.—the "down-east" nabob on the one hand and the common people on the other, are the only two recognized "classes" of society in Canada.

### 7. Do you mean to state that there are "classes" in liberty-loving Canada?

A. We mean to state this; That about fifty men own or control—which is the same thing—the whole of Canada. Now, then, some years ago these fifty men divided themselves up 25-25, the first 25 calling themselves Conservatives, the second 25 calling themselves Liberals. They then divided the common people of Canada 50-50. Then they called the Canadian Parliament into being at Ottawa, and proceeded to "fight" each other. But no matter which "party" is in power, the same "class" is in the "seats of the mighty," with the one sole object of robbing; through legislation, the rank and file of both parties.

### 8. What is the "Platform" of this Farmers' League?

A. The platform of the Farmers' League is just the same as that of the old political parties, and that is,—**"Get into power"**; but the programme is the very opposite to what the old parties will give you. The writer believes that the first thing that should be done after a "Farmers' and Workers' Parliament" has been select-

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ed, is to place on the Statute books of Canada a Federal Direct Legislation Act, to compel them to make into law the programme as here laid down, and more.

9. By what means and methods do the big eastern monied interests exploit or rob the farmer, and what means and methods can the farmer adopt to prevent it?

A. As we have said before, only by "getting together" and "sticking together" at the ballot box on election day.

10. But the farmers won't "stick together," because they haven't "stuck" in the past.

A. Now, just stop a "noise" like that,— Didn't the farmers of North Dakota "stick" last fall? Why, they went to work under the Non-Partizan League of North Dakota and completely "cleaned" the whole state.

11. But wouldn't this League programme, when carried out, rob the bankers and manufacturers?

A. That depends whether or not a robber can be robbed by the people he has previously robbed. If a man steals your coat and you catch him with it on his back, would it be robbery for you to take it away from him? It is true that the farmer has for ages consented to this crude, but legalized, system of robbery; but that is no reason why they should submit to it for all time to come.

There is a time when "patience ceases to be a virtue"—and the limit has now been reached, when the average farmer of Saskatchewan and Alberta is compelled to feel like a coyote when he sees on the sky-line a motor-car, headed in his direction; thinking, and quite reasonably, too, that it is the beginning of a drama in which the local bailiff will be the hero and not the villain.

12. But do not such ideas as that breed "class" hatred, and put the farmers and big interests "at war" with each other?

A. The one basic principle implied by the words "war" and "warfare" is that there shall be organization on both sides, or otherwise the press notice in all

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our subsidised newspapers will read,—“Company ‘B’ of Militia dispersed the ‘mob.’” “Mob,” mind you, and that is the exact term used by that “bunch” down east when they wish to describe the farmers and the other useful people of Canada. But they speak truthfully, because any large number of people who are not organized are a mob. They cannot do anything nor “get anywhere.” To create conditions so that a real political class war is possible in Canada, is the sole aim and object of the farmer who is writing this pamphlet. Do you know when this political war will start? I do. Let me tell you. The war will be “on” the very moment the farmers make an organized bid for all their food stuffs are worth on the world’s market.

13. For the farmer, things have always been pretty much as they are now. How is it possible to improve his present very unsatisfactory condition, which seems to be a permanent thing?

## THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

A. Things have not always been as they are now, and they will not always be as they are now, for the very simple reason that "everything, even in nature, is in a perpetual state of change," and always will be. People never "crystallize" their thoughts or institutions into a unchangeable form. No matter how well you may do a thing today, very likely it will not meet the conditions of tomorrow. This holds just as good in politics as in everything else. Then, in the name of all that is just, why allow the former acts of some Canadian politicians, long since dead, rule the people now alive?

14. But what is wrong with the present system;— wouldn't all be well if each would only do what is right?

A. In order for a man to do what is right, he first of all, must know what is right. But seeing that certain classes of people in Canada differ as to what is right, we are forced to the belief that a man's conception of what is right is dictated by his personal interest. Where a man's treasure is, there also is his "heart," and his viewpoint, as regards right, truth and justice, will be made to conform with that economic viewpoint.

Now then, Mr. Farmer, in the face of that fact, why elect men to Parliament who's ideas of what is right are not, and cannot be, in parallel with yours? They may be honest, but their "mental spectacles" are colored by the necessity of thinking as their "class" would have them think.

15. Wouldn't the farmers get along well enough if they would only save their money instead of spending it foolishly in the stores and picture shows?

A. Did you ever figure out what would happen if the farmers and other producers of Canada should immediately decide to spend in 1917 only 50% of what they spent in 1916? Why, it would simply paralyze every industry in Canada inside six months.

But why suggest to the farmers of Canada the cutting down of their expenditures along personal lines. They are now wearing the cheapest clothes and eating quite ordinary food; and on the average, go very seldom to the picture shows. Your opinions have been created

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by the newspapers which are all controlled by the big business interests of the east. In other words, these newspapers ask the farmer to ill-treat himself personally and keep on "hoping" politically. It is the common people of Canada who spend—who keep the industrial wheels of Canada turning.

Again, I say that the Canadian farmer cannot at the present time retain sufficient of what he produces to allow himself any latitude in his personal expenditure. It is up to him to first get all that his finished products are worth on the world's markets, and then think about saving.

16. Is it necessary for the Government to own the national utility corporations; wouldn't Government control of them be sufficient?

A. The only way to have control of anything is to own it. This applies just as much to governments as to corporations. Government control of corporations would be all right if the people controlled that government. The only way farmers can control a government is by owning it, and the only way to acquire ownership of a government is by starting at the ballot box on election day—and there is no other way. Now, be sure you get that idea through your head, as it is the "guiding star" of this Farmers' League.

17. Does the Farmers' League believe in Woman Suffrage?

A. This League believes in equal and unrestricted suffrage for both men and women.

18. If this League is a farmers' movement, why not get the same results through the present farmers' industrial organizations, instead of going to the expense and trouble of organizing a Farmers' Political League?

A. Because such associations as the Grain Growers of Manitoba and of Saskatchewan, and the United Farmers of Alberta were formed long before there was any general demand for political action. Primarily, they were intended for purely industrial action. The farmers recognize that both industrial and political action is necessary as is evident from the fact that



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over seventy per cent. of the members of this League are members of the farmers' industrial organizations. They realize that the general farmers' movement can be better served by these two separate forces, acting each in its own field, but both working together with the ultimate object always in view, namely, the political supremacy of the common people. The farmer who becomes a member of the Grain Growers' local is quickly "schooled"—in an amateur way—in the devious methods of big business. The idea is soon forced upon him that his local trading association is attempting the impossible task of competing with unlimited capital. In other words, he arrives at the conclusion that the ballot box is the only place to "start" anything. The Farmers' League has thus become a sort of post graduate course for those members of these industrial associations who are determined to think further than a single car-load of coal.

**19. Does the Farmers' League indorse any political party?**

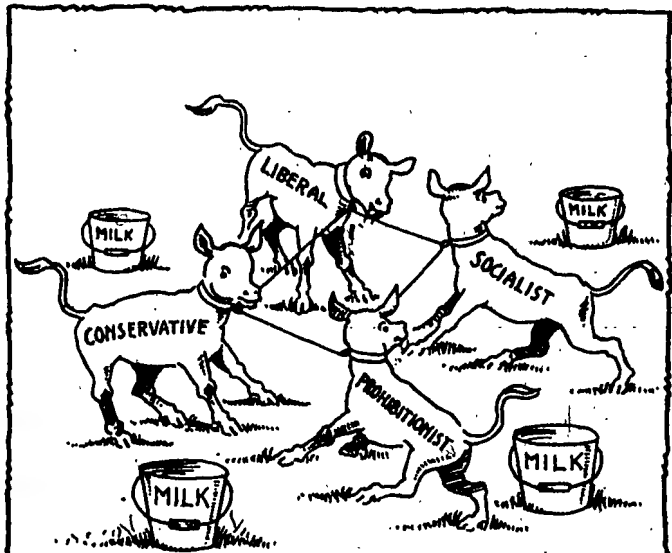
A. No. The League does not indorse any political party. The members of this League realize that in Canada there is only one party,—“Conservative” and “Liberal” being two names applied to the same “thing” or “class.” The League indorses only one class. That class is the farming and working class.

**20. Does the League recognize any labor organizations?**

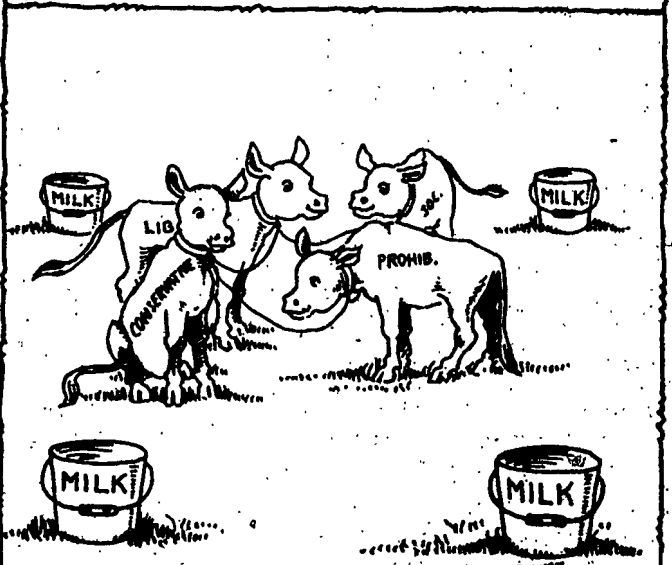
A. Yes, most assuredly. For if it did not recognize the worker it automatically would fail to recognize itself, as all thinking farmers nowadays classify themselves as workers. The wage worker starts out Monday morning to do a week's work with no financial surplus from the wages of the week before. The farmer starts out in March each year in just the same financial boat he started out in the year before. Poverty in both cases being caused by the same disease, namely, not getting all their product was worth.

**21. Is the Farmers' League indorsed by the Grain Growers' Organizations of Western Canada?**

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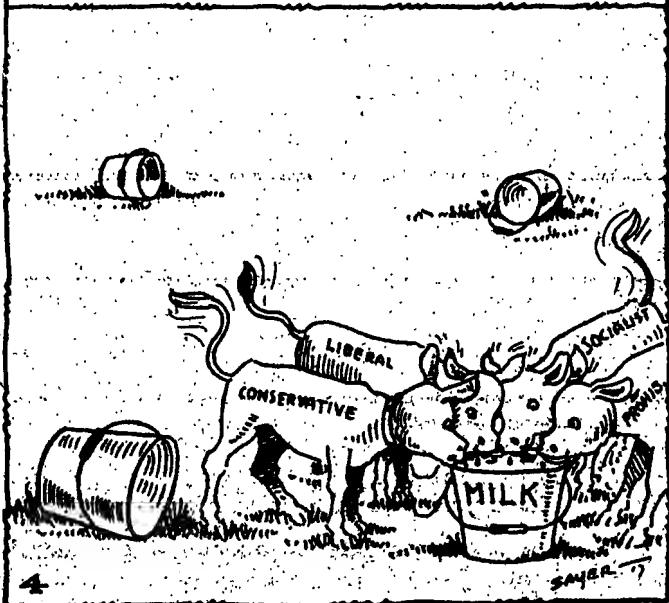
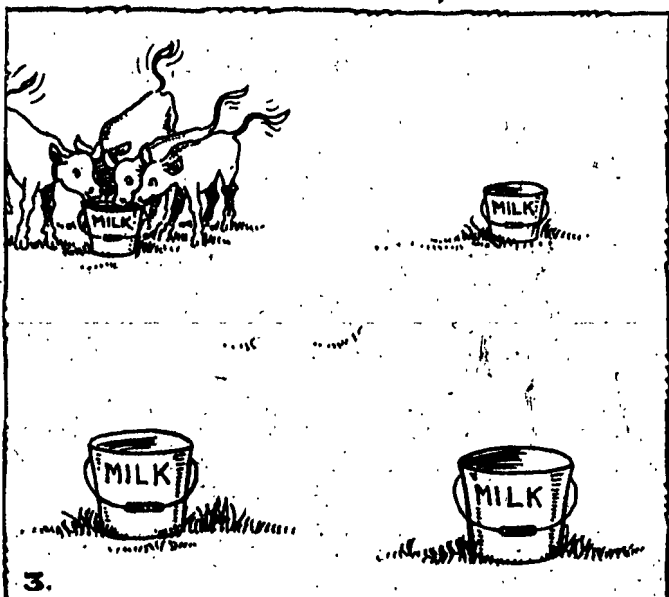
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2.

LET'S GET TOGETHER

# THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE



## THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

A. Yes, it is indorsed by the rank and file of their members as private individuals.

22. But did not the Society of Equity of North Dakota indorse and secretly "father" the League in that State?

A. The Farmers' League of North Dakota was secretly and openly "backed" by the Equity.

23. Do the official heads of the Grain Growers' Associations and United Farmers of Alberta indorse the League; if not, WHY NOT, in the face of the precedent established in North Dakota?

A. As we are not "mind readers" it is quite difficult for us to guess what position they will take, with regard to their future relations to the League. But it is reasonable to expect that they will be guided by the friendly relations which existed between the Equity Society (of which the late George Loftus was President), and the parent League of North Dakota.

If the future relations are not friendly, then the rank and file of the farmers of Saskatchewan will want to know why, and will proceed to find out why.

24. The membership fee of the League is \$15.00. That seems pretty "steep." Was not the fee in North Dakota \$9.00? What is the reason for this difference?

A. The population of North Dakota is about the same as Saskatchewan, but if you examine the map of North Dakota, you will see that that State only contains about 1700 townships, while Saskatchewan has 3400 townships, south of a line drawn East and West through Prince Albert. The "per capita mileage," in the getting of members, is double what it is in North Dakota. The men who started the movement in Saskatchewan were warned that not less than \$15.00 would suffice for organization expenses, that is, to cover the Province in the shortest possible time. The Leagues now operating in the States of Montana and Minnesota have placed their membership fee at \$16.00.

25. Does the League intend to enter the Federal political field?

## THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

A. Yes, certainly.

26. But can even the provincial programme of the League be carried out without "running foul" of constitutional difficulties?

A. Yes—so far as we have been able to discover.

27. But what I really want to find out is—could the farmers of Canada, even if they had all the other working people "with" them, and were in control of the Canadian Parliament, could they pass legislation that would amount to anything without "clashing with the provision of the British North America Act"?

A. If the British North America Act "clashes" with the expressed demands of the common people of Canada, the people of Canada will change the provisions of that Act.

28. Yes, but they haven't the power to change it, so how will they do it?

A. The only way to do anything is to just do it. The "people" have, in recent year, curtailed the powers of the House of Lords, and thus altered the Constitution. His Majesty King George has recently stated that the final sovereignty rested with the people. The people can, therefore, get any legislation that they co-operatively demand.

29. Yes, but any change would have to be O.K'd by the Imperial Parliament?

A. Never mind—that O.K. will be forthcoming, when the "time arrives."

30. Is this League organized on a business basis? I mean is everything at the central office so conducted as to safeguard the funds of the League?

A. Yes, absolutely. The secretary-treasurer at present is bonded in the sum of three thousand dollars, with a reliable bonding company. This amount may be raised from time to time as is deemed necessary by the executive committee.

All organizers or canvassers are required, when working for the League, to have two of their neighbors,

## THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

who are farmers, give jointly with himself, their personal bonds for \$200.00, this making a total of two hundred dollars "on each canvasser's head."

Each canvasser is required to make a report not less frequently than once a week, and with it remit all monies collected.

31. At \$15.00 each, the amount collected would total up to a large sum. How is this money spent?

A. It is spent for the exact purpose for which it is donated, namely, to build up a gigantic political organization in the shortest possible time.

32. But during the canvass of the last half of the Province will there not be a very large fund got together?

A. We do not know how large it will be when the above has been collected, and during the process of collection the bonds of the secretary will have been raised to a corresponding amount.

33. For how long is the present executive committee elected?

A. The number on the executive committee, at the time this pamphlet is being written, is seven, which number will be added to until the total number is twelve, which is the full executive, as laid down in the Constitution. One-third of the executive retire at the end of each year, that is at the annual meeting in July of each year. The principles of direct legislation have been adopted in the government of the League, otherwise the League would not be democratic, which it is. In fact, a real democracy is the very thing we are setting up.

34. But do you think that we can obtain and keep political control?

A. We sure can. If you, my reader, are a farmer and a "wise one," you are "automatically a fighter" for yourself and your "class." Quite possibly you have always thought yourself "alone" in that fight. Not so, my brother farmer and worker. You are anything but alone in this mix-up. But there is one thing

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you must always remember, and that is—those down-east bunch of grafters don't care "two hoots" how much you and I "roar" on the streets of our respective towns, so long as they can keep us from "roaring all together at the ballot box on election day. That's the only place to raise a "holler," and the best time to start the "roar" is right now.

35. Have any of the Grain Growers' conventions,—I mean district conventions,—endorsed the programme and work of the League? &

A. Yes, at the Grain Growers' convention of District 14, held at Swift Current last month, the League was unanimously endorsed.

36. Has any "organized opposition" to the League developed as yet?

A. To answer that question intelligently, it is necessary for me to know exactly what you mean by "organized opposition."

If you mean an opposition backed by a definite organization, then I will answer no. But I want to state right here that there will be organized opposition, and lots of it.

The opposition will "get" men of whom you never had a doubt. These men will turn on their class like dogs, all for some personal promise. The certainty of this future struggle is what we wish to impress upon your minds. There is only one way of knowing to a certainty whether or not any organization is for the farmer, and the following test is infallible,—this is the test:

When you hear definitely that some farmers' organization is being formed, just start watching the "controlled" newspapers. If these papers are silent or just "hand out" an occasional "knock," or start persecuting that organization, you may take it from me that the organization is a good thing for the farmer. But if that farmers' organization has on its executive, or advisory committees, some men who are not farmers—in the strict sense of the term, and these same newspapers jump out and give the organization all kinds

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of favorable publicity, you can immediately come to the conclusion that that organization is a "wrong one," for you and me.

The reason for this condition of affairs is apparent the moment you examine the facts carefully. If you examine everything you will find—that the big business interests have deliberately placed this man, or men, on the executive for the sole purpose of acting as a "scout" for them.

When anything "radical" is attempted by the rest of the executive, this "scout" is there to put the "brakes on" such ideas, and in other ways to "twist" or "bend" the policy of the executive, even if this "bending" be ever so little.

Now, "bending" of anything is the primary act in the formation of a circle, and one of the peculiar properties of a circle is that if you follow it around you will "end up" just where you started out, with nothing



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done. Hence, the complacent face on big business, when they have the "right man" on a farmers' executive. Hence, the fine line of publicity handed out by the capitalist-controlled press. They both know that everything is "safe" for them. So now when you hear the Non-Partisan League "knocked," just take that "knock" with a "grain of salt," and have another "think," because the League knows that any man, or group of men, who "knock" the League are "wrong" somewhere. Look more closely at these men and you will find that they have an "axe to grind," then look still more closely and you will find on their financial and political "landscape" a good-sized "grinding stone." That grinding stone you will discover is labelled "Self Interest."

37. Why do you not include Free Trade in your Dominion programme?

A. The reason that we do not include Free Trade in our programme is this—That until we have a Parliament at Ottawa elected intelligently by the people and legislating solely for the people, the enactment of real free trade would be fought just as bitterly as would the nationalization of the national industries of Canada. We are going to have opposition anyway, so let you and I go after the big things.

Another reason why we should not resurrect this Free Trade corpse at the present time is, that through the efforts of the "controlled" press in the past, we, the common people of Canada, are on record as being divided on that question, as was witnessed at the "killing" in 1911 of that puny offspring of Free Trade called Reciprocity. No, my brother farmers, let us attack this disease at its source. To the mind of the writer Free Trade is just a dirty old bone that has been "chewed" by every dog in Canada, and before we handle that old bone too much we will have to inject some non-partisan chloride of lime into the Parliament of Canada, by putting out of business the "controlled" Canadian press, as now constituted.

38. Did you imply at the beginning of this pamphlet

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TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF

that men, other than farmers, could not become members of this League?

A. Yes, they may become auxiliary members. Any person may become an auxiliary member, but such member has no voice or vote in the management of the affairs of the League.

The auxiliary members are, therefore, "silent boosters" for the League. Exclusion of men other than farmers was necessary at the inception of the League owing to the fact that organized labor in the three prairie provinces, exclusive of Winnipeg, Regina and Calgary, was a negligible quantity. The farmers, composing as they do, 75% of all the people in these provinces, the work of organization was up to themselves and the few other workers who would join with them.

39. Let us suppose that the various items on that

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provincial programme to have been enacted into law, what do you estimate the saving in "actual money" would be per farmer per year?

A. We have not as yet prepared the figures for Saskatchewan, but we are giving you herewith the figures for North Dakota. These figures will apply to Saskatchewan with the exception of one item, viz.—hail insurance. We have that legislation now in name, but not in reality—this being the only way that the present party system will legislate for the farmers. The following is from the Non-Partisan Leader of North Dakota, the official organ of the League there:

### LEAGUE FARMERS WILL SAVE ENOUGH TO PAY DUES 213 YEARS

"According to Bulletin No. 119, issued by the Agricultural College, the farmers of the State this year will lose on an average \$1 per bushel on the one grade of 'D. Feed' alone. Assuming that each farmer will have on an average one car of 60,000 pounds of 'D. Feed,' the total loss to the 50,000 farmers of the State will be \$72,701,000, or for each farmer a loss of \$1,454.02, this year alone. That is, that would be each farmer's loss if he sold his 'D. Feed' at an average of 76 cents per bushel and bought back the finished product, flour, feed, shorts and bran, at the prices prevailing when Dr. Ladd wrote Bulletin 119."

In order to get the answer to the question, "Is the Non-Partisan League a paying investment," it is only necessary to recapitulate and compare these figures. With the Non-Partisan League programme enacted into law the losses cited above would not occur. The result would be as follows

Saving on improvement taxation.....	\$ 10.00 per year
Saving on hail insurance.....	100.00 per year
Saving on docking and grading .....	150.00 per year
Saving of "D. Feed".....	1,454.02 per year
Total.....	\$1,714.02 per year
Cost of membership in the League.....	\$ 8.00 per year
Saving to each member.....	\$1,706.02 per year

This amount will be saved each farmer. It will pay his dues in the Non-Partisan League for over 213 years. That is as long as we will care to pay dues. The Non-Partisan League is a paying investment."

## THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

40. I notice in this clipping that the annual membership fee in North Dakota is eight dollars. Is there an annual fee in the Saskatchewan League?

A. That question will come up at the annual meeting in July and will be decided by the members themselves. The executive committee has no power to deal with such questions.

41. With our Federal programme enacted into law, to what figure do you place the total saving to the common people of Canada?

A. It is very difficult to arrive at even an approximate estimate of the annual steal by organized money in Canada, but totalling up the various items, we place the annual theft at 1200 millions; in practice, the saving in money will be found to be in excess of this amount.

42. What proportion of this sum can really be charged up to tariff protection?

A. About seventy millions per year. Of this seventy millions, possibly fifty millions can be saved to the people of Canada through the nationalization of the non-competitive industries. No free trade act will accomplish this result, for the simple reason that about half a dozen of our greatest industries, such as the machinery trust, are already on an international basis. So that the lowering or suspension of the tariff would only result in the raising of prices to equalize, and thus continue the theft. No, Mr. Farmer, don't "tinker" with "Free Trade until you have completed this nationalizing business. That's the end to start at. The farmers and workers who shout about Free Trade as the "panacea" for all their ills, have only been thinking in a superficial manner. Always get down to the basic principle underlying all these questions before you even start to discuss or argue about their merits or demerits.

43. Well, I am satisfied that this League is just the institution that I have been looking for. In what way can I help the work of organizing in my district?

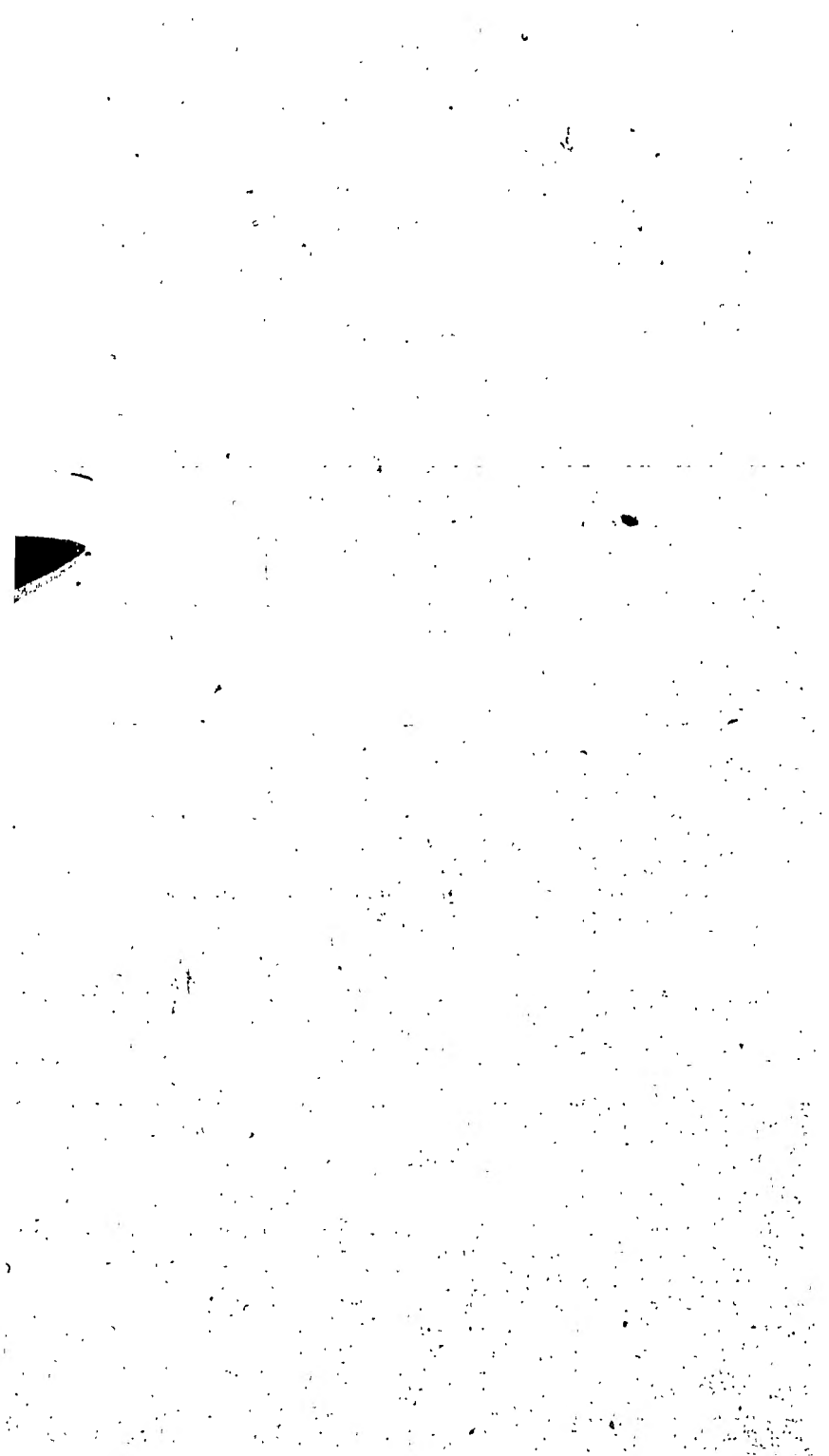
## THE "WHY" OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

A. I understand you to say that you have chosen to take the side of the farmer and other common people in this struggle. Then I greet you as a co-worker.

You and I are meeting an entrenched foe, a thorough organization of our "army" is necessary. The first thing to do in getting into touch with headquarters is to fill up the enclosed blank and mail it to the Central Office in Swift Current, Saskatchewan. We will then know who you are and where you are. With that knowledge we will start the "ball rolling."

As regards the detail work of canvassing your district, that question is dealt with fully in a special pamphlet.





## ORGANIZER'S APPLICATION FORM

My full name is .....

My Post Office address is .....

My farm is located in Section ....., Township .....,

Range .....

Can you give ALL your time to the League? .....

If not, how much? .....

I am willing to take charge of organization work in

Township .....

Range .....

West .....

Could you, or would you be willing to undertake  
organization work in another part of the Province?.....

For further information regarding me, I refer you  
to the following gentlemen, who are neighbors of mine:

Name ....., P. O. ....

Name ....., P. O. ....

Name ....., P. O. ....

Applicant's name .....

Post Office .....